

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01

USIE-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 IGA-02 EB-07

AGR-05 L-03 /082 W

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O 252145Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2105

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 6731

FOR VANCE AND LUERS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SANR BL

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS CONTROL: PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORIZATION OF
FORWARD COMMITMENT OF FUNDS

1. I HAVE READ STATE 207837 SEVERAL TIMES. I HAVE HAD KEY OFFICERS ON MY STAFF DO THE SAME. WE SHARE A COMMON FEELING THAT SOME OF THE DRAFTERS OF THAT MESSAGE HAVE NOT TAKEN ADEQUATELY INTO ACCOUNT THE REALITIES OF THE BOLIVIAN SITUATION, THE EXTENT OF GOB POLICE ACTION IN BREAKING UP RINGS, THE SPEEDY AND EFFICIENT GOB RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR HELP ON THE COCAINE CONSPIRACY CASE, PRESIDENT BANZER'S PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF INTENT TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING AND TO REDUCE COCA PRODUCTION, THE COMPETENCY AND DEDICATION OF DNSP LEADERSHIP, NOR MY VIEWS ON THE MOST DESIRABLE NARCOTICS STRATEGY FOR BOLIVIA. IN SOME WAYS IT APPEARS THAT IT IS MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN MODEST SUMS FOR A VITAL PROGRAM OF CONCERN TO US THAN IT IS TO OBTAIN CREDITS FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. I DO, OF COURSE, SUBSCRIBE TO THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM AND BELIEVE IN PRUDENT USE OF USG FUNDS.

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2. I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT BANZER

AT 10 A.M. AUGUST 26 TO PRESENT THE AIDE MEMOIRE. MAY I HAVE BY IMMEDIATE CABLE THE TEXT OF THE RECOMMENDATION WHICH PRESIDENT FORD APPROVED. WAS THE AIDE MEMOIRE IN ITS PRESENT FORM ATTACHED TO THE MEMO WHICH PRESIDENT FORD REVIEWED?

3. PRESIDENT BANZER MAY HAVE SOME QUESTIONS WHICH I WILL WANT TO REF TO YOU FOR CLARIFICATION.

4. SINCE THE GUIDELINES IN THE REFTEL IN SEVERAL PLACES ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE AIDE MEMOIRE AND DO NOT REPRESENT CURRENT REALITIES, I AM HEREWITH MAKING KNOWN MY VIEWS AS TO WHAT I BELIEVE SHOULD BE THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE US TO WORK SUCCESSFULLY WITH A COOPERATING AND FRIENDLY GOVERNMENT TOWARD CONTINUED AND IMPROVED COOPERATION ON TRAFFICKING AND COCA PRODUCTION.

A. WE SHOULD CONTINUE OUR PRESENT SUCCESSFUL STRATEGY OF COLLABORATION WITH AN AVOWED ALLY IN THE NARCOTICS EFFORT BY OFFERING REASONABLE ASSISTANCE IMMEDIATELY TO HELP THEM INCREASE THEIR EFFORTS.

B. WE SHOULD AVOID THE QUID PRO QUO, SINE QUO NON, RIGID PHASING, LEVERAGE APPROACH WHICH SO OFTEN SUGGESTS A ZEALOUS GUARDIAN SEEKING TO DETER AN UNWORTHY MENDICANT FROM STEALING HIS SCARCE RESOURCES; RATHER WE SHOULD ACT AS IF WE SINCERELY WISH TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE GOB TO FIND OUT WHAT ACTIONS THEY BELIEVE CAN BE TAKEN AND WHEN THEY BELIEVE THESE MEASURES CAN BE ADOPTED, AFTER SHOWING TANGIBLE EVIDENCE OF OUR WILLINGNESS TO FINANCE GREATER EFFORT.

C. WE SHOULD APPROVE AN IMMEDIATE GRANT FOR AN ACCELERATION OF THE PILOT PROJECT SEPARATE FROM ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES BASED ON THE PAPER PREPARED BY THIS MISSION OVER THE PAST TWO MONTHS WITH WASHINGTON TDY HELP, IN ACCORDANCE WITH WASHINGTON INSTRUCTIONS.

D. WE SHOULD PROVIDE AN IMMEDIATE GRANT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES SEPARATE FROM AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING FUNDS FOR OPERATIONS, FOR COMMUNICATION, EQUIPMENT FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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TRANSPORTATION, AND FOR WEAPONS AND MINOR EQUIPMENT.

E. WITH TANGIBLE US SUPPORT THROUGH MAKING GRANTS AS PER B AND C, WE CAN HELP THE GOB PREPARE A BETTER OVER-ALL ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL WITH EMPHASIS ON SPECIAL OPERATIONS AT MAJOR RINGS WHEN ADEQUATE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO IDENTIFY WHICH LOCATIONS HAVE HIGH PRIORITY AND WHO ARE THE TARGETS.

F. WITH THESE US GRANT FUNDS IN HAND, WE CAN HELP THE GOB PREPARE A PLAN FOR REGISTRATION OF EXISTING COCA PRODUCERS, USING AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND GROUND SURVEY, AND AFTERWARDS SEEK TO HAVE A LICENSING SYSTEM ESTABLISHED.

G. WITH THE GRANT ASSISTANCE IN HAND, WE CAN ENCOURAGE THE GOB TO ISSUE A DECREE PROHIBITING NEW COCA PLANTINGS AND HAVE GOB PREPARE PROGRAM FOR GRADUAL PHASE-OUT OF PLANTINGS WHICH OCCURRED AFTER REGISTRATION BUT BEFORE PROHIBITION OF NEW PLANTINGS, IF THERE IS A TIME GAP.

H. WE SHOULD REFRAIN FROM PRESSING FOR REDUCTION OF TRADITIONAL PLANTING, STRICT CONTROLS ON TRANSPORT, AND MARKETING UNTIL THE INCOME SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM SHOWS POSITIVE RESULTS AND AID LOAN FINANCING HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED.

I. WE SHOULD APPROVE THE PID SUBMITTED WITH THE ABS PROPOSING A RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROJECT IN YUNGAS AND CHAPARE FOR FY 1977.

5. I UNDERSTAND THE SKEPTICISM ON THE PART OF SOME IN WASHINGTON TO PROVIDING ADDITIONAL HELP UNLESS THE GOB DOES MORE THAN IT IS DOING ON LAW ENFORCEMENT. YET, WE ARE WITNESSING HIGH-LEVEL GOB COOPERATION IN THE TROCHE CASE, THE COCAINE CONSPIRACY CASE, AND IN THE "COLOMBIAN-CHILEAN" RING BUST. I HOPE YOU WILL RECOGNIZE THESE ACTIONS AS PROVIDING A SOLID JUSTIFICATION FOR MORE US FUNDING NOW AND THAT YOU WILL HELP ME IN THAT REGARD.

6. I URGE THAT THE TEAM, TO BE SENT IF THE GOB ACCEPTS THE AIDE MEMOIRE, CONSIST OF A COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST, A TRANSPORTATION EXPERT, A MANPOWER AND TRAINING AUTHORITY, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND AN AID PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST TO DO A RAPID JOB OF HELPING PREPARE FOR FUNDS AND EQUIPMENT FOR DNSP. I PROPOSE THAT S/NM AND AID CONSULT CAREFULLY AND FULLY WITH USAID RURAL DEVELOPMENT CHIEF ROBERT MOFFETT WHEN HE IS IN WASHINGTON ABOUT THE NEW AND LONGER-TERM AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES. I BELIEVE THAT WASHINGTON AGRICULTURAL AND PROGRAM PERSONNEL CAN WORK OUT THE AGRICULTURAL ASPECTS, SUBSTANTIVE AND PROGRAMMATIC, IN WASHINGTON.

7. I UNDERSTAND THAT MEMBERS OF THE TEAM HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROGRAM THAT THEY WISH TO GET ANSWERED WHILE IN BOLIVIA. MAY WE HAVE THESE QUESTIONS OR SOME INDICATION OF TOPICS OF THE QUESTIONS SO THAT WE CAN BEGIN NOW TO PREPARE MATERIAL TO HELP THE TEAM MEET ITS OBJECTIVES IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME.

8. IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE I AM RESPONDING TO STATE 210215,
SUBJECT: REVISED PROP FOR ACCELERATION: COCA CROP SUBSTITUTION
PROJECT, WHICH IS NOT IN ACCORD WITH MY CONVERSATION OF
AUGUST 24 WITH AMBASSADOR VANCE. THAT MESSAGE WOULD CLEARLY
SET BACK OUR REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE ACCELERATION
OF THE PILOT PROJECT PAPER. I ASSUME IT WAS SENT BEFORE
AMBASSADOR VANCE GAVE ME MORE ACCEPTABLE GUIDANCE THAT THE
TEAM VISIT WOULD NOT DELAY THE PILOT PROJECT ACCELERATION.

9. I WILL RECOMMEND DATES FOR THE TEAM AFTER MY MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT BANZER.
STEDMAN

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